



KEY NOTES

e-newsletter of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission

Dec. 16, 2011

Design of tribute coins honors national anthem



Gold Obverse (front); Gold Reverse (back); Silver Obverse; Silver Reverse

The U.S. Mint, on Dec. 14, unveiled designs for the [Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coins](#) – one gold, one silver. Sixteen months ago, President Obama signed legislation directing the Mint to produce the coins, which honor the 200-year anniversary of the writing of the national anthem. A portion of proceeds from coin sales – up to \$8.5 million in matching funds – will help to fund Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission activities and programs.

"This coin is a great honor and the product of years of hard work in an extremely competitive process," said Rep. C.A. "Dutch" Ruppersberger. "It will help raise much-needed funds so we can properly celebrate the role Marylanders played in our nation's fight to victory and share that rich history with the rest of the country." Ruppersberger and Sen. Benjamin Cardin introduced the legislation in the House and Senate.

The Mint will produce 100,000 gold coins and 500,000 silver coins. Prices for the coins will be announced in early 2012; coins go on sale in March and will only be sold in 2012.

A depiction of a naval battle scene from the War of 1812 is on one side of the gold coin. The reverse side has the words "O say can you see" in a reproduction of Francis Scott Key's handwriting. The silver coin has "Lady Liberty" waving the 15-star, 15-stripe Star-Spangled Banner flag with Fort McHenry in the background. A contemporary American flag is on the other side.

Blue Angels headline Sailabration air show



Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz addresses the crowd with MTA Deputy Sec. Darrell Mobley, Lt. Cmdr. Todd Royles, Lt. Mark Tedrow, and Gen James Adkins.

In this Issue

[Design of tribute coins honors national anthem](#)

[Blue Angels headline Sailabration air show](#)

[SS200 conference series closes year in Frederick](#)

[NEA grant supports choral group's 1812 performances](#)

[New 1812 exhibit opens in Cambridge](#)

[Get into the spirit of 1812 as 2012 rolls in](#)

[Featured site: Fort Washington](#)

Upcoming Events

[Heroes and Villains of 1812: A Look at the Personalities in the War of the Chesapeake](#)

Jan. 17

[Researching Free People of Color in Harford County](#)

Feb.16

Recent News

[MPT to bring F.S.K. to life](#), Carroll County Times, Dec. 7, 2011

[Blue Angels to fly over Baltimore for bicentennial event](#), Baltimore Business Journal, Dec. 1, 2011

[Damascus students compose variations on 'Star Spangled Banner'](#), Gazette.net, Nov 30, 2011

The U.S. Navy Blue Angels will perform in the Star-Spangled Air Show, June 16-17, 2012 – a part of [Star-Spangled Sailabration](#), the international maritime festival at Baltimore's Inner Harbor that launches Maryland's commemoration of the War of 1812. It will be the first time the Blue Angels stage an air show in Baltimore.

Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz joined Maryland Transportation Deputy Secretary Darrell Mobley and Maj. Gen. James Adkins at Martin State Airport in eastern Baltimore County, Dec. 1, to make the announcement as a single Blue Angels F/A-18 Hornet banked overhead, then landed and taxied toward the media event.

"Baltimore County communities and citizens played a critical role in the War of 1812 and we are delighted to host the Blue Angels next June as they headline the air show," Kamenetz said. The Blue Angels will fly out of Martin State Airport for the show.

Star-Spangled Sailabration is expected to bring hundreds of thousands of visitors to Baltimore and the region, generating a substantial economic boost and significant national and international media coverage.

SS200 conference series closes year in Frederick



Frederick Key General Manager Dave Ziedelis, Tourism Council of Frederick County Executive Director John Fiesler, historian Ralph Eshelman, Commission staffer Kate Marks, and Commission Executive Director Bill Pencek pose with mascot Frank Key during the tour.

The Frederick/Montgomery Star-Spangled 200 Conference – one in a series of events presented by the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission to familiarize stakeholders with the sites, stories and organizations related to the War of 1812 in Maryland – was held Dec. 14. Approximately 40 participants attended the conference, which was sponsored by the [Tourism Council of Frederick County](#) and [Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center](#).

Opening-session presentations at the Frederick Visitor Center featured Ralph Eshelman, a prominent Maryland War of 1812 author and historian, and Alan Gephardt, a ranger at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine.

A subsequent tour included visits to the Hessian Barracks, [Mount Olivet Cemetery](#) and Harry Grove Stadium, home of the [Frederick Keys](#), a minor-league affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles. Named for Francis Scott Key, the Keys are planning to highlight their new mascot (of the same name) during the 2012 season.

The group also stopped at the Madison House in Brookeville (Montgomery County), the residence where James Madison sought refuge on Aug. 26, 1814, after the British sacked Washington D.C.

Read more [news](#).

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

Dec. 16

[National Scenic Byways Intent to Apply](#)

Jan. 11

National Endowment for the Humanities

[America's Historical and Cultural Organizations: Implementation Grants](#)

[America's Media Makers: Development Grants](#)

[America's Media Makers: Production Grants](#)

[America's Historical and Cultural Organizations: Planning Grants](#)

Jan. 17

National Endowment for the Humanities

[National Digital Newspaper Program](#)

Institute of Museum and Library Services

[Museum Grants for African American History and Culture](#)

Jan. 18

National Park Service

[American Battlefield Protection Program](#)

Jan. 31

President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities

[National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards](#)

NEA grant supports choral group's 1812 performances

[Baltimore Choral Arts Society](#) was among the 13 Maryland arts organizations and two Marylanders to receive a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) last month. The choral group received a \$10,000 award to support its Land of the Free performances and educational activities tied to the bicentennial commemoration of the War of 1812 and the writing of the national anthem.

Now in its 46th season, the Choral Arts Society has performed throughout the mid-Atlantic region, in New York and Europe. Tom Hall is the group's conductor.

New 1812 exhibit opens in Cambridge

[Dorchester County Historical Society](#) has installed a new 1812 bicentennial exhibit at the Robbins Heritage Center in Cambridge. A British military uniform and British encampment, along with period weaponry and clothing that local residents wore, are on display. During the War of 1812, British raiding parties used Dorchester County as a place to replenish their food supplies. Virginia Scott Jenkins curated the exhibit in collaboration with Charles Kuehne. The historical society received many of the items on display from Kuehne and his wife Peggy, who loaned them in memory of their son Brian Scott Jeznach, an avid historian and re-enactor. Open Monday through Friday and some Saturdays, the society is located at 1003 Greenway Drive, off Maryland Avenue East. For information, call 410-228-7953.

Get into the spirit of 1812 as 2012 rolls in

Bring the War of 1812 bicentennial into your holiday celebrations. Fifteen-star, 15 stripe American flags – available online from Maryland-based [F.W. Haxel](#) – are ideal gifts for 1812 aficionados. Also, consider [Sailabration polo shirts](#) or visit the gift shops at [Calvert Marine Museum](#), [Riversdale House Museum](#) and [Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine](#). Enjoy an outing in [Frederick](#), [Havre de Grace](#), [Leonardtown](#) or [other locations with 1812 connections](#). On the Eastern Shore, visit the [Historical Society of Talbot County](#) and dine at the [Kitty Knight House](#) in Kent County.

Featured Site



Fort Washington

The fort –also known as Fort Warburton – helped to fortify the nation's capital against British forces along the Potomac River during the War of 1812. It was built in 1809.

On Aug. 27, 1814, the 49 men stationed at the fort blew it up and spiked its canons in anticipation of capture by the British following a brief bombardment by six Royal Navy warships. The British then advanced to Alexandria, Va., without resistance. Capt. Samuel T. Dyson, who had commanded Fort Washington's garrison, was arrested and later court-martialed for abandoning his post and destroying U.S. government property.

Links



[Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission](#)



[Star-Spangled 200, Inc.](#)



[Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#)



[Baltimore National Heritage Area](#)



[Battle of Bladensburg](#)

[Eastern Shore 1812 Consortium](#)

[Historic Prince George's](#)



[Upper Bay War of 1812](#)

A new Fort Washington was completed in 1824. Extensive renovations of the fort occurred in the 1840s.

13551 Fort Washington Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744
301-763-4600

www.nps.gov/fowa

Prince George's County

Key Notes is the monthly e-newsletter of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. Send information about your bicentennial planning efforts to [Kate Marks](#) for inclusion in future issues.

PDF files of previous issues of *Key Notes* are available on the Commission's [web site](#).

Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission
Office of Tourism Development | Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development
401 East Pratt Street, 14th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

410-767-6974 | www.starspangled200.org | info@starspangled200.org

